



## JEFF STONE

STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
82ND DISTRICT

Good Afternoon Chairperson Taylor and Committee Members,

Thank you for this opportunity to discuss this legislative effort that Senator Lassa and I have undertaken. SB 468 and AB 790 will change the way that we release a person convicted of rape back into the community. As it is now the person being released is allowed to head back into the community without regard to the location or daily activities of the victim. This Bill will change that imbalance and prevent the person being released from contacting or locating close to the victim(s) of the offenses committed.

This Bill is based on the experience of a real person that might yet testify on behalf of this effort. This person was brutally raped and had her life turned inside out. What was once a promising beginning to a young life was turned into a nightmare existence that only years of counseling and support was able to overcome. Then the second offense occurred. This one was the fault of the State. We released the rapist back into the community and this person chose to locate near the victim. So once again the trauma of that fateful night was brought back to light. Unfortunately this also impacted the family that the victim had started including a husband and child. The terror that was felt almost ripped her life apart and once again it was a battle to regain the strength to move her life forward and be a good mother and wife.

It is at this point our court system says get a restraining order. This is an action that can only antagonize the person convicted of having raped the victim. This fact and the reality that it will take some time for the courts to get the order in place works against the victim. Some might even consider not requesting the order out of fear of retribution from the felon. Why do we ask this from the victims? I don't know either.

This Bill will have the order in place as a condition of release and the person will be informed of this before release. This will not require the victim to take any action. The action that could be done is to petition the court to remove the order if they are so compelled. This is a positive action and one that will not antagonize but will empower the victim to deal with the results of this action as the see fit.

I would like to thank you for considering this common sense piece of legislation and trust you will move the Bill forward. I would be happy to take any questions if you have some at this time.

Representative Jeff Stone  
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